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17648 U.S. PTO

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11 Sept 2006

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir or Madam:

10674.216

Transmitted herewith for filing is the United States Utility Patent Application of:

**Inventors:** Lori C. Kroll and Mark W. Kroll

**Invention:** Toddler Stair Safety System

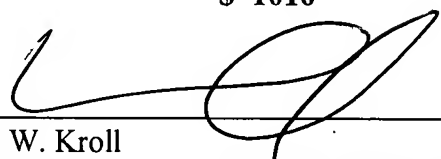
**Enclosed are:** ☒ Specification with claims  
☒ Thirteen (13) Drawings  
☒ Declaration  
☒ Information Disclosure Statement  
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### Fee Computation

Fee	Small Entity	Fee Paid
Basic filing fee	\$ 150	\$ 150
Search fee	\$ 250	\$ 250
0 Extra Claims	\$ 25	\$
0 Extra Independent Claims	\$ 100	\$
Extension for response in 3 <sup>rd</sup> month	\$ 510	\$ 510

**Total Filing Fee**

**\$ 1010**

  
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09/14/2006 CNGUYEN 00000021 10674216

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## SPECIFICATION

### Toddler Stair Safety System

This application is a Request for Continuing Examination from parent case "Toddler Stair  
5 Safety System" US SN 10/674,216 filed on 3/30/2006 which was based on Provisional  
Application 60/498956 filed 30 August 2003. A Final Office Action was mailed on 30  
March 2006 and thus this RCE is within the 3 month extension period. The \$519  
extension fee is enclosed with the filing fee.

### 10 Background of the Invention:

Each year about 3 million children in the United States alone visit emergency room  
departments for fall-related injuries. A major cause is falling down stairs. These falls  
result in more open wounds, fractures and brain injuries than all other accidents of  
15 children. Nearly one hundred children under the age of 9 die per year from falls. A  
major problem is going up and down stairs for toddlers. These are infants between 18  
months and 4 years of age. They are old enough to be able to crawl up stairs, but not  
typically tall enough to be able to use the adult-height banister.

The solutions suggested to date have basically involved a lower height stair rail.  
20 For example, Roberts (U.S. Patent No. 3,005,242) teaches a secondary railing that hangs  
below the primary railing. Ruhnke (U.S. Patent No. 3,269,553) teaches the use of  
adjustable shelf-type hangars to adjust the height of the railing. Turner (U.S. Patent No.  
4,556,201) teaches a secondary handrail for toddlers as does Jaworski (U.S. Patent No.  
5,337,528) and Koza (U.S. Patent No. 4,853,166) and finally Sedlack (U.S. Patent No.  
25 6,209,854).